GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3273
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2016
Insurance Cover
Ram Shri Vishnu Dayal

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of public and private sector insurance companies working in the country as on 31st March, 2016;

(b) the number of people employed in the said insurance companies during the said period;

(c) the efforts made by the Government to bring reforms in the insurance sector of the country; and

(d) the target set by the Government for increasing foreign investment in the insurance sector during the current financial year?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance

(a) The total number of public and private sector insurance companies working in the country as on 31st March, 2016 is 55.

(b) The number of people employed in the said insurance companies during the said period are as given below:
Insurance Sector Number of employees as on 31.3.2016
Life Insurance Sector (Including LIC & Private insurers) 247541
General Insurance Sector (including Public Sector Insurers, Private Insurers, Standalone Health Insurers and Specialised Insurers) 106776

(c) The Insurance Laws (Amendment) Act, 2015 is the most significant reform in the Insurance Sector. The Amendment Act removes archaic and redundant provisions in the legislations and incorporates certain provisions to provide Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) with the flexibility to discharge its functions more effectively and efficiently. It also provides for enhancement of the foreign equity investment cap in an Indian Insurance Company from 26% to 49% with the safeguard of Indian ownership and control.

(d) Post the Insurance Laws (Amendment) Act, 2015, the total foreign investment inflow on account of increase in the limit of foreign investment in the insurance sector works out to Rs. 16,190 crores as on 31st July 2016.